

SHB 1710 - S COMM AMD

By Committee on Early Learning & K-12 Education

ADOPTED 04/05/2011

1 Strike everything after the enacting clause and insert the
2 following:

3 "NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** (1) The legislature continues to find that
4 access to high quality career and technical education for middle and
5 high school students is a key strategy for reducing the dropout rate
6 and closing the achievement gap. Career and technical education
7 increases the number of young people who obtain a meaningful
8 postsecondary credential. Improving career and technical education is
9 also an efficiency measure, because reductions in the dropout rate are
10 associated with increased earnings for individuals and reduced societal
11 costs in the criminal justice and welfare systems.

12 (2) The legislature further finds that much progress has been made
13 since 2008 to enhance the rigor and relevance of career and technical
14 education programs and to align and integrate instruction more closely
15 with academic subjects, high demand fields, industry certification, and
16 postsecondary education. Activities to support these objectives have
17 included:

18 (a) Requiring all preparatory career and technical education
19 programs to lead to industry certification or offer dual high school
20 and college credit;

21 (b) Expanding state support for middle school career and technical
22 education programs, especially in science, technology, and engineering;

23 (c) Providing support for schools to develop or upgrade programs in
24 high demand fields and offer preapprenticeships;

25 (d) Developing model career and technical programs of study leading
26 to industry credentials or degrees;

27 (e) Assisting school districts with identifying academic and career
28 and technical education course equivalencies;

29 (f) Pilot-testing programs to integrate academic, career and

1 technical, basic skills, and English as a second language instruction;
2 and

3 (g) Developing performance measures and targets for accountability.

4 (3) Therefore, the legislature intends to ensure that progress will
5 be continued and enhanced by providing a mechanism for monitoring
6 continuous improvement in the rigor, relevance, and recognition of
7 secondary career and technical education programs and improvement in
8 students' access to these programs.

9 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** (1) Within existing resources, the office of
10 the superintendent of public instruction shall convene a working group
11 to develop a statewide strategic plan for secondary career and
12 technical education.

13 (2) The strategic plan must include:

14 (a) A vision statement, goals, and measurable annual objectives for
15 continuous improvement in the rigor, relevance, recognition, and
16 student access in career and technical education programs that build on
17 current initiatives and progress in improving career and technical
18 education, and are consistent with targets and performance measures
19 required under the federal Carl Perkins act; and

20 (b) Recommended activities and strategies, in priority order, to
21 accomplish the objectives and goals, including activities and
22 strategies that:

23 (i) Can be accomplished within current resources and funding
24 formulas;

25 (ii) Should receive top priority for additional investment; and

26 (iii) Could be phased-in over the next ten years.

27 (3) In particular, the working group must examine:

28 (a) Proposed changes to high school graduation requirements and
29 strategies to ensure that students continue to have opportunities to
30 pursue career and technical education career and college pathways along
31 with a meaningful high school diploma;

32 (b) How career and technical education courses can be used to meet
33 the common core standards and how in turn the standards can be used to
34 enhance the rigor of career and technical education;

35 (c) Ways to improve student access to high quality career and
36 technical education courses and work experiences, not only in skill

1 centers but also in middle school, comprehensive high schools, and
2 rural areas;

3 (d) Ways to improve the transition from K-12 to community and
4 technical college, university, and private technical college programs;

5 (e) Methods for replicating innovative middle and high schools that
6 engage students in exploring careers, use project-based learning, and
7 build meaningful partnerships with businesses and the community; and

8 (f) A framework for a series of career and technical education
9 certifications that are: (i) Transferable between and among secondary
10 schools and postsecondary institutions; and (ii) articulated across
11 secondary and postsecondary levels so that students receive credit for
12 knowledge and skills they have already mastered.

13 (4) The working group membership shall include:

14 (a) School district and skill center career and technical education
15 directors and teachers and school guidance counselors;

16 (b) Community and technical college professional-technical faculty;

17 (c) At least one of each of the following: A school director, a
18 principal, a counselor, and a parent;

19 (d) Representatives from industry, labor, tech prep consortia,
20 local workforce development councils, private technical colleges, and
21 the Washington association for career and technical education; and

22 (e) A representative from the workforce training and education
23 coordinating board.

24 (5) The office of the superintendent of public instruction shall
25 submit a progress report to the education committees of the legislature
26 and to the quality education council by December 1, 2011. The final
27 strategic plan, including priorities, recommendations, and measurable
28 annual objectives for continuous improvement, is due by December 1,
29 2012."

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30 On page 1, line 2 of the title, after "education;" strike the

1 remainder of the title and insert "and creating new sections."

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